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CONFIDENTIAL

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FEB 29 1952

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Lieutenant General L. H. Edwards
 Commanding General, Air University
 Maxwell Air Force Base, Alabama

Dear Idwal:

I have deliberately delayed my reply to your cordial letter of 6 February 1952 in the hope that I would be able to arrange my schedule so as to accept your invitation to lecture at the Air War College on 7 April. For some time however, I have been planning to take a little leave if the pressure of work permitted, and I now find that I can get away the last of March and the first of April. You will understand why I must decline your invitation.

I would like to recommend however, [redacted] one 25X1
 of the Senior Intelligence Officers of this Agency, to take my place. 25X1
 [redacted] has been in close touch with the Soviet problem since 1941. 25X1
 when, as a Marine officer, he commanded [redacted]
 [redacted] He joined CIA in 1946 and has been in top positions
 in our work on the USSR since that time, except for a period of eight
 months in 1949 when he went to [redacted]

[redacted] Most recently he
 drafted and coordinated our latest National Intelligence Estimate on
 Soviet intentions.

[redacted] is an experienced and lively speaker with an excellent
 personality and has lectured frequently on the subject of Soviet
 intentions.

Again I regret that I will be unable to make this presentation
 myself but I am sure you will understand my reasons for suggesting a
 substitute.

With kindest regards,

Sincerely,

SIGNED

Walter B. Smith
 Director

25X1

cc: [redacted]

ILLEGIB

rewritten 0/DOI - [redacted]

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 Activities and Methods